



# Americans Smash St. Mihiel Salient; Gain 5 Miles Along 40-Mile Front; 9 Towns, 8,000 Prisoners Captured

## 13,000,000 Enroll for Service in New Army

## Machinery of the Great Draft Moves Without Apparent Friction Anywhere

## 758,000 in New York Estimated Figures

## Average Time for Enrollment Only 5 Mins.; Delinquents of First Call Corralled

Thirteen million men offered themselves to the nation yesterday.

The registration of men of eighteen to forty-five for the new draft was without excitement and almost without incident. So smoothly did the machinery work that most of the men were listed long before sundown.

In announcing the successful registration of 758,000 men in the city Director Conboy declared it was an achievement which would be heralded around the world. He paid high tribute to the 15,000 volunteer workers who had made the feat a possibility.

Monumental Work, Says Director  
Mr. Conboy late last night issued the following statement:

"The registration of 758,000 men in this city has been accomplished. The number is a source of undying pride to the people of New York and of unparalleled encouragement to our boys who are already in the trenches. The news will be received joyfully in Washington, London, Paris and Rome and cheerily in Berlin.

National Estimate Realized

"The work of registration has been a tremendous task for more than 15,000 volunteer workers who have devoted this day to the task of registration. Previous to registration they spent many nights in preparation for this day. Their work was well done. The local boards, as usual, did yeoman's work. These tireless men have accomplished almost a superhuman task in the last few weeks. We have had from three to four inductions a day to Southern camps. The big slacker raid imposed a tremendous amount of work upon them and the preparations for this day have been monumental. They have done it all and done it well.

"At headquarters, the work has been very heavy. Here the regular staff has worked night and day and the force has been augmented by a great number of volunteer helpers, without whose assistance this office would have been swamped. With this help, the work has gone on smoothly and promptly. They have given their time in unstinted measure and their devotion is only another evidence of the patriotic zeal and devotion that are the common characteristics of the whole nation.

"On the whole, this day's work has been good. The national estimate for New York City has been realized. The work that this day has received so great an impetus, will go forward to its completion with the whole soul and the whole strength and all the resources of the nation behind it."

Daylight found lines of patriots waiting in front of 1,200 registration places that were not to open until seven o'clock. The lines did not last long, however, once the registrars began work, for the machinery was simple. The average time that elapsed after a man entered and when he left a place of registration was less than five minutes, a notable improvement over the first draft.

Fathers and Sons Together

In scores of places it was reported that fathers and sons had enrolled together as potential soldiers of the Republic. There was no excitement, no trouble and none, even, of the apprehension that kept emergency details of soldiers in barracks during the first draft on June 5, 1917.

A typical Manhattan registration place was at Public School 19, in Fourteenth Street, near First Avenue.

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## Draft Raids Here Netted Only 199

Of the 60,000 men who were herded into trucks and detained at armories and police stations during the recent so-called slacker raids, only 199 were inducted into the army.

Martin Conboy, director of the draft, made this statement last night. This total is strongly at variance with the sweeping figures announced by Charles F. de Woody, the Department of Justice agent who commanded the assorted forces of government agents, soldiers, sailors and citizens who made the raids.

Of the 199 draft dodgers, at least eighty-five were men from out of town. Mr. Conboy said:

"The figures that have been given have created the impression, among those who have not examined them closely, that a great many men of draft age in New York City had succeeded in evading, for a long time, their military obligation. The facts are decidedly otherwise. There is not a community in the country that, at the time of the raid, was so free from slackers and deserters as was New York City.

"When it is remembered that there were 640,000 names on our classification lists before this day's registration the results of the raid were really negligible."

## Debs Guilty; Penalty May Be 20 Years

## Socialist Also Liable to Fine of \$10,000 for Violating Espionage Act

CLEVELAND, Sept. 12.—Eugene V. Debs, charged with violating the espionage act, was found guilty by a Federal jury today.

Talking to newspapermen after the verdict, Debs said:

"It is all right. I have no complaint to make. It will come out all right in God's good time."

Of the original ten counts of the indictment but four remained when the jury retired to consider the evidence. The verdict found him guilty of three; not guilty of one. He was found guilty of attempting to incite insubordination, disloyalty, etc., in the military and naval forces; attempting to obstruct recruiting and uttering language tending to incite, provoke and encourage resistance to the United States and to promote the cause of the enemy.

The count on which he was adjudged innocent charged that he opposed the cause of the United States.

Counsel for both sides said that they considered Judge Westenhaven's instructions fair. They were exhaustive and couched in simple language and delivered in a kindly manner, requiring one hour and a half. He made no comment on the evidence which, presented by the government, was affirmed by the President, but assured the jury that the espionage act was wholly valid.

The jury was out five and a half hours, mostly spent in assimilating the fine distinctions in the four counts. Rain fell and the courtroom was dark and gloomy, but the spectators remained throughout.

When it was announced that the jury was ready to report the crush became great. Mrs. Rose Pastor Stokes, herself under conviction on a similar charge, came inside the railing for the first time. Previously, at Debs's request, she had remained hidden in the body of the audience.

She drew her chair beside his and into her hands he slipped his own gaunt fingers, where they remained while the clerk was reading the verdict and polling the jury. Mrs. Stokes had expected an adverse verdict from the first, admitting it to her friends. Nor was it a surprise to Debs. In his address to the jury he said he had not one word to retract, and rather went out of his way to accent the damaging St. Louis anti-war platform.

The maximum penalty is twenty years' imprisonment and a fine of \$10,000. John F. Sawken, of the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, who gathered the government's evidence, was among the interested spectators.

Judge Westenhaven stated that he would hear counsel on a motion for a new trial next Saturday morning. Debs until then will remain at liberty under the trial bond.

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## Victory Now Certain, Says Lloyd George

## Premier, at Manchester, Asserts Durable Peace Must Be Imposed

## Rulers of Germany Will Be Punished

## Treaty Must Not Be Drawn Either by the Too Radical or Too Moderate

MANCHESTER, England, Sept. 12.—"Nothing but heart failure on the part of the British nation can prevent our achieving a real victory," said Premier Lloyd George, speaking today in Manchester.

The Premier said that the British casualties in the last offensive in France were one-fifth what they were in 1916.

Premier Lloyd George said he was all for a league of nations, and that in fact a league already had begun. The British Empire, he said, was a league of free nations, and the Allied countries fighting the battle for international right were now a league of free nations.

"To end all wars," the Premier said, "we must impose a durable peace on our enemies. The Prussian military power must not only be beaten, but Germany herself must know and the German people must know that their rulers have outraged the laws of humanity and that Prussian strength cannot protect them from punishment."

Must Be the Last War

"This must be the last war," Mr. Lloyd George said. "Don't let us be misled that the establishment of a league of nations without power will in itself secure the world against a catastrophe. A league of nations with the Prussian military power triumphant would be a league of fox and geese—one fox and many geese. The geese would greatly diminish in numbers."

Continuing, the Premier said: "We shall neither accept for ourselves nor impose upon our foes a Brest-Litovsk treaty."

The only sure foundation for a league of nations, the Premier said, must be of a kind, he added, that commands itself to the commonsense conscience of the nations. As a whole it must not be dictated by extreme men on either side.

Spurns Dishonorable Peace

"We cannot," he continued, "allow the 'Bolsheviks' to force on us a peace so humiliating as to dishonor the national flag and to make a repetition of the horrors of this war inevitable. When a satisfactory peace has been secured we can proceed with a clear conscience to build up a new world."

"The news is distinctly good, really good," said the Premier. "We are going through a long tunnel and are not at the end of the journey. There are some steep gradients to climb. It may be that the tunnel will be dark, but it will be short now that the worst is over."

Mr. Lloyd George delivered his address on the occasion of his receiving the freedom of the city, for which purpose he had journeyed to Manchester. He was greeted warmly by the citizens, who crowded the streets he passed through and who filled the Hippodrome, where the presentation was made.

The Premier recalled that his last visit to Manchester was paid in June of 1915, when he appealed to the engineers to organize for the war. He had not gone into this work personally with any eagerness, and in fact he did not mind saying that he went into it reluctantly.

Life of Britain at Stake

Having realized the character of the challenge, however, he felt it was a thing not to be done in any half-hearted way, as the life of Great Britain, her honor, the fate of the empire and the destiny of the human race hung on the issue of the war.

After pointing out that while there might be difficulties ahead, the way through would, in the Premier's belief,

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## Willing to Restore Belgium With Big 'If'

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 12.—That Germany might restore Belgium, without conditions or indemnities in case no other country would be better situated as regards Belgium than Germany, was the belief expressed today by Frederick von Payer, the Imperial Vice-Chancellor of Germany, in a speech delivered in Stuttgart.

Herr von Payer was speaking on the depression felt in Germany and allied countries, which he attributed not to recent military events, but to the prospect of a fifth war winter.

With regard to the appearance of the American troops in the war, Vice-Chancellor von Payer said:

"Nobody will deny that the co-operation of the American troops on the front means a heavy and ever-increasing burden for us. Our enemies, however, forget that if the Americans now appear by hundreds of thousands at the front we have already put millions of Russians, Serbians and Rumanians out of action. And the Entente will not succeed in winning them back for their own purposes."

## Germany Is Now in State Of Semi-Panic

## Critic Warns People That Talk of Mutiny Will Lead to Disaster

By H. W. Smith  
(Special Cable to The Tribune)  
(Copyright, 1918, New York Tribune Inc.)

ROTTERDAM, Sept. 12.—It is not necessary to accept the reports of mutiny shootings in Cologne and elsewhere to be convinced that the German public is in a condition of semi-panic in which reverses are likely to lead to a serious outbreak. The "Kölnische Zeitung" was constrained to give first place to a two-column article by Wegener under the heading "In the Midst of the Hurricane."

Wegener preaches from the old text that by indulging in feelings of alarm the people of Germany are playing the Allies' game. His own language is little calculated to allay the fears of any but the most undisciplined. He writes:

"Our position is serious as never before in the thousand years of our people's history. We fight almost the whole world, and have no one, nothing but our own strength, to count upon."

Warns Against Alarm

"An alarm now, however, is like a shout of fire in a crowded theatre which may bring disaster, unless, by pleading or the use of force, calm can be maintained."

Wegener says the whiners are like a bad child tired on a walk, who throws himself upon the ground and cries, "I will go no further!"

As to proposals to evacuate France and Belgium, "does any one believe we will be able to obtain concessions if we no longer have anything to offer but ourselves? All such suggestions," he continues, "avail nothing."

"We must recognize that we and our country are in the position of a lonely ship in the midst of a raging hurricane. No man can leave the ship; the sole hope of salvation is to carry on and bring the ship into harbor or go down with it. Moaning and groaning can only hasten disaster. All talk of mutiny will bring it with fatal certainty upon us."

Politics Disturbed

The crushing effect of the Allied victories in France is every day more clearly reflected from Germany, although promises of political changes, indicated by the "Frankfurter Zeitung" yesterday, must be received with reserved caution, if not skepticism. It is well not to leave out of account the change in public feeling since a year ago, when it was possible for politicians to dupe the people into the continued acceptance of the status quo. As to the changes themselves, it is difficult as usual to say what, if anything, is contemplated.

The "Leipziger Tageblatt's" statement that Hertling is to go and Self

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## Tank Fleet Leads Yanks In Offensive

## Bombardment Scatters Foe and Infantry Meets Weak Resistance

## Enemy Fire Silenced Near Seicheprey

## Germans Driven Back to Second Line, Where Fighting May Be Stronger

LONDON, Sept. 13.—"The Daily Mail" correspondent at the American front sends the following description of the battle along the St. Mihiel sector:

"The First American Army, under the personal command of General Pershing, for the first time went into action today in the St. Mihiel salient. Never before has there been such a large concentration of American troops for one operation, and never have the Americans been in such complete control of their own operations."

"The event has long been anticipated. Some people assigned to it grandiose objectives, but in reality the attack is for limited objectives only."

Seasoned Troops in Drive

"The concentration of a great part of the most experienced United States troops had taken place in the last two weeks and everything was planned minutely and with exactitude for a great event in American history. Last night the final preparations were completed."

"The country over which the Americans are fighting is very difficult. The high ridges and thick woods offer every concealment for enemy machine guns, and, in addition, the Germans have a fortified line of resistance, which has everything in its favor."

Great Bombardment Begins

"At 1 o'clock Thursday morning the artillery preparation began with a roar that could be heard many miles away, and all night it rose and fell with peculiar fluctuations. From all roads that ran parallel the flashes of innumerable guns told of the impending assault. Toward 5 o'clock—the hour of the attack—the firing became even more rapid, and its sullen tone mingled strangely with the sound of the rain."

"At dawn whole fleets of tanks manned by strong young Americans and French were to be seen moving out of their shelters to lead the attack. They lumbered on, but the Germans offered little opposition. The American infantry followed in open order, ploughing through the mud, but it was little troubled by the feeble artillery resistance."

Foe Uses Machine Guns

"At one point, near Seicheprey, where the Americans had previously fought desperately with the Germans, machine gun and automatic fire swept down upon the Yanks' right flank, but the tanks and artillery quickly moved in that direction, and the Americans went steadily forward."

"At 7 o'clock the tanks had disappeared amid a smoke cloud over the ridge in front of Seicheprey."

"The Germans have offered very little resistance to the advancing Americans. Occasionally a stray machine gun or automatic rifle has been discovered, but it is apparent that the enemy has withdrawn his main forces to a second line, which possibly he will defend with a certain degree of tenacity."

"His artillery has been firing from behind a ridge which runs in

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## General Pershing Leads First Drive

PARIS, Sept. 12.—The first big American offensive, which began at daybreak today between the Meuse and Moselle rivers, was conducted under General Pershing's personal supervision and was executed under orders of American officers with American soldiers. This was the first distinctly American operation of a major character launched on the Western Front.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—General Pershing's report of today's offensive follows:

"Headquarters American Expeditionary Forces, Sept. 12, 1918.

"Section A.—This morning our troops, operating in the St. Mihiel sector, made considerable gains. Assisted by French units, they broke the enemy's resistance and advanced at some points to a depth of five miles. We have counted 8,000 prisoners up to the present. The operation is still in progress."

To-day is General Pershing's fifty-ninth birthday.

## British Push Lines Close To Cambrai

## Cross Canal du Nord in New Advance Toward Important German Base

By Arthur S. Draper  
(Special Cable to The Tribune)  
(Copyright, 1918, New York Tribune Inc.)

LONDON, Sept. 12.—The British are today within seven miles of Cambrai. In sharp fighting they took Havincourt and Moeuvres, crossed the Canal du Nord northwest of Havincourt and established themselves on its west bank above Moeuvres.

This means that the British are confronting the reorganized Hindenburg line from Ecoust St. Quentin to Ephey. By capturing Attilly, Verman and Vendelles the British arrived within four miles of St. Quentin and are now in alignment with the French to the south. These engagements have been developing into sharp struggles, as the Germans are showing no inclination to give ground except upon payment of a good price.

Enemy Floods Douai Region

By flooding the country west of Douai the enemy has established an anti-tank "no man's land," across which he has been hurling many shells from the high ground northwest and south of Douai. The period of rainy weather has been a decided advantage to the enemy in his job of constructing a water defence, while it also prevented the Allied airmen from accomplishing the usual amount of reconnaissance work.

These are the days when engineers' labor battalions are working night and day at a feverish pace building railways, repairing mined roads, erecting billets, constructing airbases and bridging streams. Food for man and gun must go forward without delay, and it is a long journey across the wasted plains of Picardy.

Foch Conserving Men

Foch has the reputation of being a miser with men. He attacks with battalions where some generals would employ divisions. But he doesn't hesitate to use huge masses where he considers the reward worth while. Whereas Debeney was satisfied to keep in contact with the enemy, harassing him occasionally, "Mangin struck hard frequently. Thus, the average losses of the various Allied armies have been kept extremely low through Foch's nursing tactics."

German military writers are excusing their defeat by magnifying the numerical superiority of the Allies, but when the full facts will be known Foch will receive even greater credit than is his today. In mid-September, with nearly six months of the heaviest fighting of the war behind him, Foch enters the last phase of the campaign stronger in men and material than the Allies have been in any previous autumn. There are several reasons, but the greatest are Foch's economy in men and his patience.

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## St. Mihiel Taken As French Join In Great Battle

## U. S. Tanks, Cavalry and Airplanes Aid in Crushing Formidable Concrete Strongholds After Big Guns Shatter Hun Fortifications in Lorraine Sector

## Poilus Press Forward in Joint Offensive Against Hun Forces

## Menace to St. Quentin Grows as French and British Rush Onward—Hindenburg Line Cut Again and 1,000 Prisoners Fall to Haig's Fighters

September 13, 2:30 A. M.  
The American army in France yesterday launched its first great drive, which is still in progress.

By smashing pincer blows on two sides of the St. Mihiel salient, southeast of Verdun, the Americans progressed rapidly. In the early hours of their attack the enemy's grip on the huge

group of fortifications he has held for four years was broken. The American First Army, under direct command of General Pershing, attacking on a twelve-mile front on the line east of St. Mihiel, from west of Xivray to a point east of Fey-en-Hay, hurled the enemy back more than five miles.

On the front north of St. Mihiel Americans and French drove into the enemy's line on an eight-mile front, forcing their way forward two miles against tremendous resistance. At the tip of the salient the town of St. Mihiel has been captured.

## Four-Hour Artillery Fire

After four hours' terrific artillery preparation the Americans swung forward, aided by large forces of tanks and airplanes, which broke the enemy's concentrated defence. They took 8,000 prisoners.

On the east battlefield the Americans captured six villages, including Fey-en-Hay, Thiaucourt, Pannes, Nonsard, Montsec, Bouillonville and Xivray. On the northern line the Allies took Combres and reached the line of Dommartin and St. Mihiel.

The French are storming the German manned Roman fort, south of St. Mihiel.

Attempting to relieve his armies before the American attack, the enemy artillery in the Vosges opened a terrific fire on the American lines along a wide front, but attempted no infantry operation.

"The American army attacked this morning in the region of St. Mihiel. The operation is developing under the best of conditions," the French War Office declared.

## Germans Barely Mention Attack

The German High Command has little to say of the American drive, merely mentioning the attack in its official communication and the fact that fighting is still going on. It said: "Between the Meuse and the Moselle the French and Americans attacked at the St. Mihiel bend. The fighting continues."

By two thrusts against the enemy before Arras the British fought their way forward for deep gains on critical sectors. Toward Cambrai Haig's armies advanced a mile on an eight-mile front, capturing three villages and 1,000 prisoners, and again piercing the Hindenburg line, at Havrincourt.

British forces before St. Quentin, aided by the French on the south, advanced more than a mile on a wide front, capturing three villages.

## Americans Reach First Objectives An Hour Ahead of Drive Schedule

(By The Associated Press)  
WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE LORRAINE FRONT, Sept. 12 (3 p. m.)—The Americans in their drive reached the first objectives at some points an hour ahead of schedule time. Seven hundred prisoners already have been taken.

All along the line the advance has been carried out on or ahead of



The British advanced at (1). The Americans struck at (2) and (3).